



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2/15 SUPP. Declaration
4/28/00
B.N.

In Re Application of:

Date: April 14, 2000

Anderson

Serial No.: 08/702,286

Group Art Unit: 2712

Filed: August 23, 1996

Examiner: Harrington, A.

For: A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR GROUPING IMAGES IN A DIGITAL
CAMERA

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SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.131

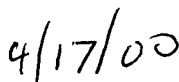
I, Eric C. Anderson, hereby declare that:

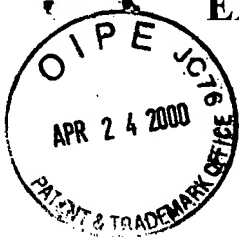
1. I am the inventor of the subject matter recited in the claims of the above-identified application.
2. Prior to August 9, 1996, I conceived of the idea of providing a digital camera interface that includes a mark function for allowing a user to mark randomly chosen images to create a temporary group of images for collective manipulation.
3. I conceived of this idea while working for Apple Computer, Inc., in Cupertino, CA, as System Architect for Apple's next generation software architecture for image capture devices, code-named "FlashPoint".

4. Attached as Exhibit A are pages 1 and 3 of a document dated April 15, 1996 that I prepared summarizing inventions conceived for the FlashPoint project. On page 3, the second paragraph from the bottom is labeled "Method for Creating a Slide Show from a Series of Images", which sets forth a description of my invention, as described and claimed in the present application.
5. Attached Exhibit B is a letter dated August 8, 1996 from outside counsel to Eric Anderson enclosing a second draft of the present application for review. During the course of preparing the present application, the title of the invention had been changed to "A Method And System For Grouping Images In A Digital Camera."
6. On August 23, 1996, the present patent application describing and claiming my invention was filed.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


Eric C. Anderson


Date



Inventions Summary by Priority FlashPoint Project

by Eric C. Anderson
System Architect
Image Capture Group

April 15 1996

Filed Patents

P1311: Focus Methods and Auto-Macro
P1366: Color Overlay for Focus Assist
P1369: Orientation Sensors in a Digital Camera
P1449: Interrupt System for a Multi-Threaded Digital Camera
P1450: Image Rotation Pre-Storage Process
P1560: Whole Way Scan AF
P1561: DMA Chaining Async Protocol
P1600: MultiMode ROM under SW control
P1439: Battery Utilization with a Flash
P1451: Background Spooling in a Digital Camera
P1873: Disk Icon Support for Power Failure
P?: Navigation in Image Sets (GUI) - *4NAVIGATION - Draft*
?????: SDRAM Mode Cycling UNKNOWN STATUS/IBM Joint Patent

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AAA Inventions

After some thought, I believe the description below is a distinctive different approach to the design of a digital camera from anything else on the market. It is critical we file this ASAP. One issue is this: is the Sanyo/Epson camera or the NEC (John Moon's) camera doing this same thing? I believe that the Sanyo camera uses flash memory, and also uses a DSP to speed compression. I do not know about the NEC camera, but it seems to require a removable disk be installed in order to take pictures.

Unified Memory Digital Camera (Carr)

- The key invention is to utilize a single bank of battery-backed up (self-refresh) DRAM for multiple purposes, including frame buffer, image processing buffers, processor working memory, and a RAMDisk for storing temporary (raw) image files and processed and compressed image files. An optional removable storage disk is supported, and typically is a flash disk or rotating magnetic (hard) disk. This removable storage disk is also used for temporary storage of raw image data, as well as being used for storing compressed image files. The removable disk and the RAMDisk are accessed via standard DOS commands, and maintain a standard directory and FAT structure. Image processing is

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☐ **PTO-892 Form**

☐ **PTO-1449 Form**

☐ **PTO-948 Form**

☐ **Other** _____

☒ **Other**

PAGE 2 OF EXHIBIT A

IS MISSING

P?: Method for Image File Naming to Resolve Conflicts

- A Numbering and Naming Method for Images Captured by a Digital Camera: This is a simple system for eliminating name conflicts in a digital camera, by using a counter to count the total images captured. This count is used as part of the image name. This number is stored in EEPROM memory to maintain its value accurately under all power conditions, including power failures. This also eliminates conflicts on this host when the files are uploaded, since each image captured has a unique name. [Eric Anderson, Mike Masukawa]

P?: Method for Image File System Organization and Folder Naming to Resolve Conflicts

- A Method for Managing Removable Media Used in Multiple Cameras: When one (expensive) removable storage device is shared between multiple cameras, problems can result due to file naming conflicts. This is eliminated by using a folder named in part with the camera serial number for the image files generated by a given camera. This ensures no conflict between cameras. This includes command set for accessing images from a given camera from the host. [Eric Anderson, Mike Masukawa]

Group Camera GUI

P1947: Adam GUI: Combining Icon and Image Pane for Grouping

- Method for Displaying Grouped Images: Each image or set of images which are grouped by the capture process (such as a burst, a time-lapse, etc) is displayed as a single image, along with one or more icons to indicate the type. Includes sound annotation, single image, sequence of images, movies, slide shows, presentations, panoramas, etc. [Eric Anderson]

P?: Adam GUI: Creating a Slide Show

- Method for Creating a Slide Show from a series of Images: This is a method for creating a series of slides using the "mark" function for the purpose of designating a sequential series of images. The group, once marked, can be deleted, moved, a soundtrack recorded to make a slide show/presentation, etc. Method provides for dynamic rearranging during the marking process. [Eric Anderson]

P?: Adam GUI: Realtime Capture of a Slide Show with Sound

- Method for Creating a Slide Show with Soundtrack in Real Time using a Digital Camera: This is a method for automatically creating a slide show in a single step. [Eric Anderson]

P?: Adam GUI: Sound Annotation Methodology



EXHIBIT B

BENMAN COLLINS & SAWYER
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
620 HANSEN WAY, SUITE A
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA 94304

DAVID W. COLLINS
WILLIAM J. BENMAN, JR.
JOSEPH A. SAWYER, JR.

JEAN M. BARKLEY
STEPHEN G. SULLIVAN
SUSAN C. YI

TELEPHONE (415) 493-4540
FACSIMILE (415) 493-4549

INTERNET sawycr@sirius.com

August 8, 1996

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Eric C. Anderson
Apple Computer, Inc.
3585 Monroe Street, MS:68-IC
Santa Clara, CA 95051

Re: U.S. Patent Application
Your Reference No. P1969
Our Reference No. JAS 553P
Title: "A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR GROUPING IMAGES IN A DIGITAL CAMERA"

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Dear Eric:

Please find attached a second draft of the above identified patent application including claims and informal drawings. Please carefully review the draft patent application to insure that the application, including the specification, claims and the hand drafted drawings, completely and accurately describe and claim your invention.

Please provide any additions or changes you may have directly on the corresponding pages and fax the pages back to me as soon as possible.

If you are aware of any additional or more pertinent prior art or other material information that should be called to the attention of the Patent Office, please insert reference to it directly on the draft application. Please do not hesitate to call should you have any questions or comments.

Very truly yours,

Stephen G. Sullivan

SGS\lm
Enclosure
APPLE\080896.LTR